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COORDINATED U.S. VIETNAM ACTIONS DUE

State Department Aide Named To Head New Group

By HOWARD NORTON
(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, Feb. 24 — The State Department disclosed today that the war in Vietnam now is being "coordinated" by an inter-agency committee headed by William H. Sullivan, special assistant to the Secretary of State.

The committee was described as consisting of "high-level" officials from the departments of State and Defense, and from the Central Intelligence Agency and the United States Information Agency.

A State Department spokesman said that the Defense Department is represented on the committee by William Bundy, Assistant Secretary of Defense for National Security Affairs.

Policy Coordination

"To sharpen the focus on Vietnam within the department," the spokesman said today, "it has been decided to place all matters relating to the war effort in the hands of a special assistant to the secretary."

"Mr. William H. Sullivan, whose most recent assignment has been as special assistant to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, has been named to this position."

The spokesman added that Sullivan "also is in charge of a new high-level inter-agency committee responsible for coordinating our policy and operations in Vietnam."

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The State Department spokesman pointedly declined to comment on reports that the war might be carried into Communist North Vietnam on a limited scale, to counter-act the operations of North Vietnamese guerrillas in South Vietnam.

"As the President said in his talk at the University of California at Los Angeles February 21," the spokesman said, "this contest in which South Vietnam is engaged is, first and foremost, a contest to be won by the people and Government of that country for themselves."

He also pointed out that the Secretary of Defense, Robert S.

McNamara, in testimony before Congress several weeks ago, defined the policy which the United States is now following as one of assisting the South Vietnamese.

"I would not wish to comment beyond this at this time," the spokesman told questioners.

The same spokesman indicated that the State Department is not alarmed by reports that Libya has stated publicly that it does not want any more American forces based there when the current treaty expires in 1971.

He pointed out that 1971 is still seven years away, and that there are no indications that Libya will press to have the agreement bases in that country altered in the meantime.

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